



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
Shepard Building  
255 Westminster Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

Enclosure 5a4  
December 20, 2016

Ken Wagner, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

December 20, 2016

**TO:** Members of the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education  
**FROM:** Ken Wagner, Ph.D., Commissioner *KW*  
**RE:** **The Greene School – Request for Charter Expansion Amendment**

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I present for your consideration a recommendation to deny The Greene School's request for an expansion.

Amendment Request for Expansion:

The Greene School is an independent charter located in West Greenwich. The Greene School is currently authorized to serve up to 210 students in grades 9-12. Students enroll from across Rhode Island. The Greene School requested an amendment to its charter to increase the charter's enrollment from 210 students to 300 students in grades 9-12.

In accordance to R.I.G.L. §16-77.3-3, requests for amendments to a charter for expansion require the action of the Council of Elementary and Secondary Education. Further, when considering a the overall merits of a charter expansion request, R.I.G.L. § 16-77.3-3 requires the Council to place substantial weight on the fiscal impact on the city or town, programmatic impact on the sending school district, and the educational impact on the students in the sending district to ensure that the proposal is economically prudent for the city or town, and academically prudent for the proposed sending school district and for all students in the sending district.

RIDE has conducted an in-depth review of the proposed amendment request, including The Greene School's track record of academic performance, public feedback, and the impact that the proposed expansion request would have on local communities.

RIDE has concluded that, while The Greene School has produced some commendable student outcomes, The Greene School does not yet possess a clear, sustained track record of high academic performance. At the present time, the Commissioner recommends that the Council deny the proposed amendment for expansion for The Greene School, and encourages The Greene School to resubmit an expansion request once it has demonstrated a sustained track record of high academic performance.

**RECOMMENDATION: THAT, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education moves to deny The Greene School charter amendment for expansion.**

Telephone (401)222-4600 Fax (401)222-6178 TTY (800)745-5555 Voice (800)745-6575 Website: [www.ride.ri.gov](http://www.ride.ri.gov)

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